

CMS' RDS Center Adds Retiree List & Appeals Functionality

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to announce the addition of new functionality to the Retiree Drug Subsidy (RDS) Center online application. Effective September 26, 2005 plan sponsors can send retiree files to the RDS Center, receive retiree response files from the RDS Center, appeal a denied application (i.e., an informal written reconsideration, see <http://rds.cms.hhs.gov/news/fact_sheets/appeals.htm#how1>), and request an extension for applications with plan years ending in 2007 and beyond. Plan sponsors do not need to request an extension of the September 30, 2005 deadline for plan years ending in 2006; these applications are now due 10/31/2005. CMS reminds plan sponsors to begin the application process as soon as possible to avoid the risk of an unexpected delay causing them to miss the application deadline. For more information about the RDS program, see the RDS Center web site at <<http://rds.cms.hhs.gov>>.